

Copy for Mrs. Manley.

450 Moselle Street

Buffalo, N.Y., July 10th, 1942.

Mr. William A. Leuschner,
World Building,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Leuschner:

Just before leaving for Niagara Falls, N.Y., early this evening, I received the following telegram from you:

"Can you handle Phila. Stars-Newark Eagles July 18th & 20th.
Answer Western Union."

Having called up the Hyde Park Stadium office in Niagara Falls immediately upon receipt of your telegram, I was unable to contact the Director of Recreation, who has direct charge of renting out Hyde Park Stadium, until shortly after six o'clock. Upon determining that I could get those dates, I have reserved same tentatively, pending my definite closing with you, and have sent you the following telegram: "Received your telegram. Newark and Philly O.K. July 18th and 20th. Writing Special Delivery-Air Mail."

Due to the fact that I had to get to Niagara Falls, N.Y., in time for tonight's game at Hyde Park Stadium between the Cincinnati Buckeyes and Chicago American Giants, I was unable to write you at length until now, shortly before midnight, upon my return back home here from Niagara Falls. Although we have not closed definitely as to terms for those dates, as yet, I have taken the chance of announcing over the loud speaker system at Hyde Park Stadium tonight, several times during the game, that the Philadelphia Stars and Newark Eagles will play the first game of this season at Hyde Park Stadium between two clubs of the Negro National League when those two clubs will meet at Hyde Park Stadium on next Saturday night. I have also spoken to the radio commentators and sports editor at Niagara Falls about the coming of these clubs, and they will start advertising this beginning tomorrow, Sat. July 11th, 1942. So much for that.

When I first looked at your wire, I thought that you probably meant Aug. 18th and 20th, 1942, but upon checking those dates carefully, I have found July 18th and 20th to be correct, and I am taking it for granted that those two clubs will play at Offermann Stadium in Buffalo on Sunday, July 19th, 1942, which is next Sunday, under some other person's promotion, and I take it that it may be under the promotion of Mr. Williams, of Detroit. This makes no difference to me, and I will work just as hard for the interests of the Newark Eagles and Philly Stars for July 18th and 20th, 1942, as I would if I were promoting the game on July 19th, 1942, also.

7/10/42.

While I am in position to stage the game at Lockport, N.Y., on July 20th, 1942, I would suggest that both games be played at Hyde Park Stadium in Niagara Falls, N.Y., on July 18th and 20th, 1942, because you will do better financially there. I have experimented with Lockport, and find it a very cheap town. We cannot get the straight admission of 55 cents that we get in Niagara Falls, N.Y., and Lockport is only about one third the size of Niagara Falls in population. It is no where near as good a base ball town either.

For your information, I wish to state here that besides having quite a good sized colored population in Niagara Falls, N.Y. now, there is also a \$50,000.000 construction job going on just five miles north of Niagara Falls, N.Y., where the U.S. government is constructing a big TNT plant, with some 2500 to 3000 men working on this huge job. Most of these persons now live in Niagara Falls or vicinity, and we get a good crowd of those workers to each of our games in Niagara Falls. As a matter of fact, the Cincinnati Buckeyes and Jacksonville Red Caps drew more paid admissions on a Thursday night than on the preceding night when those two clubs met on two consecutive nights at Hyde Park Stadium in Niagara Falls, N.Y. I wish, therefore, that you sanction both games to be played at Hyde Park Stadium in Niagara Falls, N.Y., on July 18th and 20th, 1942.

Now as to terms, let us not "dilly-dally" too long about this, and let us get together at the earliest possible time, so that I can devote the next several days to properly advertising and exploiting these games at Hyde Park Stadium in Niagara Falls, N.Y. Here are my suggestions, and you can take your choice of one or the other: I will be glad to give each of the visiting clubs twenty five per cent (25%) of the gross receipts, and pay the rental of the ball park, and all operating expense from the balance, including rental of Hyde Park Stadium and use of lights; all radio and newspaper display advertising and publicity; printing and putting up of placards; ticket sellers, takers, ushers, ball watchers, loud speaker system and announcer at games; base balls used in games and umpires; OR, IF YOU PREFER, I will be glad to work on the following other basis: After first deducting the park rental and payment of necessary help at ball park, base balls used in game and umpires, I will give each club one third, retaining also a third for us to take care of all the other expenses and our remuneration for our work on these games. Since writing you last, we have also engaged a sound truck to do some street advertising for a couple of evenings before the night of the game, and we also have the sound system installed for all games at Hyde Park Stadium now, entertaining the patrons for an hour before the game, then announcing all the players, batteries, etc., before and during each game, and also making various other announcements about future attractions coming to Hyde Park Stadium.

In order to acquaint the managers of the Newark Eagles and Philly Stars, or rather the owners of those clubs, about these latest developments here, I am sending each of them a copy of this letter, so that they can get together with you at the earliest possible time, and thereby enable you to wire me the final and definite confirmation by Monday, July 13th, 1942, on which day, I wish to get our placards printed.

Trusting that this covers everything fully, and hoping that I can satisfy you, as a result of my work in these coming games, that we can do considerable business between us every season, and also awaiting final and definite confirmation from you on Monday, ^{July} Dec. 13th, 1942, I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

R. J. Fischer

P.S. Please rush all adv.